

PERSONAL ELECTRONICS DEVICE POLICY

The following security policy shall be in effect at all United States District Courthouses in the Eastern District of Virginia:

I. Persons Entering United States Courthouses.

All persons must enter the courthouse through the building's main entrance and will be required to pass through a magnetometer. All associated items and bags must be screened by x-ray machine or similar device. At the discretion of the court security officer, the initial screening process may include the passing of a hand-held wand across the body of a person seeking entry.

II. Proof of Identification.

All persons seeking entry into the courthouse will be required to present a photo ID issued by a government agency, such as a driver's license or a voter identification card with picture. Other forms of identification may be used at the court security officer's discretion.

III. Prohibition on Personal Electronic Devices.

Cell phones, pagers, PDAs, laptop computers, cameras, tape recorders, and any device capable of voice recording or image photography is **prohibited** from entry into the courthouse without prior authorization from a judge of that court. Such authorization must include the specific dates, proceedings, and courtroom or location in which such device is permitted to be used. In addition, laptop computers must be cleared by the court's Information Technology staff.

No lockers will be provided in U.S. District courthouses to store these items while visiting the building.

IV. Authorization for Attorneys to Bring Electronic Devices into Building.

Attorneys requiring laptops or any type of personal electric device for court presentations or appearances must receive prior approval from a judge of that court. These devices (excluding cell phones) must also be cleared by the court's Information Technology staff.

V. Proof of Authority to Bring Electronic Devices into Building.

Persons receiving authorization to bring electronic equipment into the courthouse should have proof of such authorization readily available if requested by a Deputy U.S. Marshal or court security officer. Unless otherwise directed by the court, any electronic equipment for which no judicial authorization can be produced may be confiscated by the U.S. Marshals Service.